

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-20 remain pending in the application. Claim 2 has been canceled. Claims 1, 11, and 12 have been amended.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 15-19.

Applicants further note that Claims 2, 5, 9, 10, and 14 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations and intervening claims.

Applicants submit that in order to advance the prosecution of the present application, they have opted to cancel Claim 2 and amended Claims 1 to include all the limitations recited in claim 2. Since claims 5, 9, 10 and 14 all depend from amended claim 1, Applicants believe that that they have overcome the objections to claims 5, 9, 10 and 14.

The cancellation of claim 2 is made without prejudice.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully request that all the rejections to this application be reconsidered and withdrawn and that the Examiner pass all the pending claims to issue.

Should the Examiner have any suggestions pertinent to the allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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